



*La Plata County*  
Colorado

**CITY of  
DURANGO**



**FOR IMMEDIATE**

**RELEASE**

For additional information:

Please contact: Sarah Jacobson at (970) 759-1118

Flannery O'Neil (San Juan Basin Health) at (970) 335-2087

or Libby Faulk (EPA) at (303) 548-3967

August 10, 2015

5:45 p.m.

### **Drinking Water Update**

Durango, CO – La Plata County, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), EPA, and San Juan Basin Health are conducting sampling upon request of household water from water wells that are in close proximity to the Animas River that may be influenced by river water. If you have a well used for household water and would like a sample collected, please call the La Plata County Call Center at (970) 385-8700. Residents should not take their own samples; technicians will be sent to sample the water from homes. If discoloration is observed in well water or residents are highly concerned, the EPA will provide drinking water.

At this time, the call center is being overwhelmed and officials are asking that only those who may have wells directly affected by this incident call in.

County residents who have cisterns and haul their water are asked to reduce their water usage and obtain their water from water docks outside of Durango.

The Bayfield water dock is available 24/7 and is located on the corner of Mountain View and Spruce. Due to some pre-planned repair work, the Mancos water dock will not be available until Tuesday, August 11th. The Mancos water dock is located at the corner of E. Montezuma and South Main in Mancos and is open 24/7.

Water for livestock is available by calling the La Plata County Call Center at (970) 385-8700 hours operation are 8:00am-8:00pm.

The City of Durango wants to remind residents and businesses that if they pay their water bill to the City of Durango, their tap water is safe to drink. City staff turned off and blocked the intakes from the Animas River last Wednesday before the plume reached Durango. The pumps will remain off until the Animas is safe. Because the Florida River is now the sole source of drinking water, it is imperative that residents and businesses continue to conserve as much water as possible.

CDPHE is working closely with public drinking water systems to ensure safe drinking water.

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